

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HELSIN 02396 261110Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 AID-05 /093 W  
-----061262 270809Z /23

R 260948Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3000  
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HELSINKI 2396

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: UN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (OVERVIEW COMMITTEE)

REF: STATE 161676

1. DCM AND ECONOMIC OFFICER HAVE MET WITH BOTH MFA REPRESENTA-  
TIVE AMBASSADOR PAUL GUSTAFSSON AND DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION  
HEAD WILHELM BREITENSTEIN TO TAKE THE DEMARCHE REQUESTED IN  
REFTEL AND DISCUSS THE WORK OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE.  
GUSTAFSSON SUGGESTED THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE  
MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE WAS RATHER SIGNIFICANT IN  
THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND G-77 WERE DRAWN INTO A PRO-  
CESS OF NEGOTIATION. HE NOTED THAT THE COMMITTEE'S WORK HAD  
BEEN SOMEWHAT CONFUSED FROM THE START DUE TO THE LACK OF  
PRECISE IDEAS ON HOW THE OWRK SHOULD PROCEED. HE POINTED OUT  
THAT THE NATURE OF THE COW ROLE MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THE  
COMMITTEE TO AVOID BEING A TYPE OF NEGOTIATING BODY.  
BREITENSTEIN BELIEVES THAT IT IS UNAVOIDABLE THAT  
NEGOTIATIONS TAKE PLACE IN ANY FORUM IN WHICH G-77  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HELSIN 02396 261110Z

PARTICIPATES.

2. GUSTAFSSON AGREED THAT HAVING MORE POLICY-LEVEL  
OFFICIALS FROM LDC CAPITALS MIGHT BE ADVANTAGEOUS.

BREITENSTEIN OBSERVED THAT WHERE THE G-77 WAS CONCERNED  
THE PRESENCE OF MORE OR FEWER LDC POLICY OFFICIALS WAS

UNLIKELY TO CHANGE THE TENOR OF THE MEETINGS GIVEN THE  
STANDARD NEGOTIATING STANCE AND SOLIDARITY OF THE G-77.

3. BOTH CONTACTS AGREED THAT ANY STEPS WHICH IDENTIFY  
COMMON GROUND AND ALLOW FOR GREATER ORDER IN A CONFUSING  
WELTER OF TOPICS WOULD BE BENEFICIAL. HOWEVER, THEY  
QUESTIONED HOW THE PROCESS OF IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIFIC  
ISSUES WOULD WORK AS A PRACTICAL MATTER AND WHAT COMMIT-  
MENTS COULD BE MADE BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. BREITENSTEIN  
ALSO REFERRED TO THE UNCTAD 1980 SPECIAL ASSEMBLY CALLED  
BY THE G-77. HE BELIEVES IT UNWISE OF THE G-77 TO HAVE  
INSISTED ON THE SPECIAL SESSION BECAUSE THE DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES ARE UNLIKELY TO MAKE ANY CONCESSIONS PRIOR TO  
THE SESSION.

4. GUSTAFSSON SAID THAT THE FINNS ARE PLANNING TO HOST  
AN AUGUST 24 - 25 MEETING OF "LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES."  
THE FINNS EXPECT, AMONG OTHERS, THE UK, CANADA, BELGIUM,  
HOLLAND, AUSTRIA, IRELAND, AND THE NORDICS TO ATTEND  
THE HELSINKI MEETING. THE COW WILL BE A PRINCIPAL  
TIEM ON THE AGENDA AND, ACCORDING TO BREITENSTEIN,  
ALL SHOULD BE "A LITTLE BIT WISER AFTERWARDS."

5. GUSTAFSSON EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE TALKING  
POINTS (BASED ON REFTEL) AND AGREED THAT A GOOD DEAL  
OF CONCEPTUAL WORK REMAINS IF THE COW IS TO MEET ITS  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 HELSIN 02396 261110Z

MANDATE EFFECTIVELY.  
FRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMITTEES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978HELSIN02396  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780307-1141  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** HELSINKI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780720/aaaaaqhk.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 77fbe66c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 161676  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1886422  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (OVERVIEW COMMITTEE)  
**TAGS:** EGEN, UN, ECOSOC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/77fbe66c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014